

MAY 12 1974

# Aid Blacks, White Churches Urged

BERKELEY—Bobby Seale, Black Panther Party chairman, Saturday called on white churches to support black self-determination efforts.

Seale and Robert McAfee Brown, professor of religion at Stanford University, discussed "The Role of the White Church in the Black Community" at a gathering of some 200 persons, mostly white, at St. John's Presbyterian Center, 2717 Garber St. The program was sponsored by several church groups and was a benefit for the Intercommunal Youth Institute of Oakland.

Seale said there is no way to flee from the massive structures and institutions of society. It was up to the oppressed minorities, however, to organize themselves so that they can make these institutions work for their benefit instead of further oppressing them.

He called on members of white churches to support mi-

nority programs financially, to learn how poor people feel about issues and to back political candidates who are sensitive to the needs of minorities and the poor.

He also invited those present to visit the ~~Intercommunal Youth Institute, 6118 E. 14th St. in Oakland.~~ At present there are 96 children from two to 11 years of age enrolled in the school.

Seale attributed the high crime rate in the black community to the high rate of unemployment there and the general feeling of hopelessness. His own mother had been mugged twice, Seale said.

The solution to many of these problems, he stressed, was not more police, but assistance for such community programs as Seniors Against a Fearful Environment (SAFE), which provides a free transportation and escort

service for senior citizens to the bank and to the market.

He also called crucial the funding of summer-job programs for youths. If young people are kept active painting houses, building fences and landscaping, Seale contended, they would not be at all likely to destroy or vandalize their own creativity.

In his speech, Brown applauded the Black Panther Party because it was not a separatist organization and because it was trying to achieve reforms through electoral politics and through community organization.

Brown said the white churches could learn much from the black community about how to handle conflict and about how structures can oppress people.

He said he hoped to see more interracial gatherings like the one Saturday and he said he felt it very important

that white children get to meet and play with children of other races to halt the spread of racial prejudice.

**A Night of Jazz and Poetry**

JUN 20 1975

# Alternative School's Benefit

The Intercommunal Institute, an East Oakland model alternative school for black and poor, will be honored in a special benefit program at 7:30 p.m. June 27 at the Glide Memorial Church, 330 Ellis

St. in San Francisco.

An evening of jazz and poetry will be provided by Infinite Sound, the Black Ensemble Theater, Jan Mirikitani and Ericka Huggins.

Sponsored by the Educational Opportunity Corporation, the Intercommunal Youth Institute is a nonprofit federally supported school, which offers an alternative education for children from ages 2½ to 11.

The school has 110 students who will go directly into junior high school when they graduate, "better prepared than if they had remained in the public schools," because they are given more individual attention and taught by innovative methods, according to Ms. Huggins, a school spokesman.

Further information about the school is available from Veronica Hagopian at the Educational Opportunities Corporation, 6118 E. 14th St.